

NEWTT List of Prioritized Invasive Plant Species

PART I.

The following statements should be considered in prioritizing.

1. All species on the FL Exotic Pest Plant Council categories I & II should be controlled, acknowledging that different species will pose threats in different regions, sites, and plant communities across Florida
2. The following species are ranked into categories A, B and C, based on (1.) need for biological information; (2.) degree and rapidity of invasiveness; (3.) and developmental stage of management plans
 - ❖ Category A = these species have the most pressing needs because of rapid expansion and little (to no) understanding of how to control that increase. The methods to halt the spread are not completed. [Some species (e.g., *Melaleuca quinquenervia*) which are critically impacting Florida and have high priority will not fit into Category A, because methods and means for control are known and in time should become effective.]
 - ❖ Category B = the spread of these species is still a critical issue, but not as pressing as that of A.
 - ❖ Category C = these species have the least pressing needs because control recommendations have been developed; the species is not widespread, or is not presently alarming in its spread.
3. This listing of species should not cause the species which are listed lower in priority to be ignored in control efforts. [In other words, this ranking of species in no way implies that the species of lower rank for management plans/research development are of lower priority for control efforts.] There is fear that DEP fund allocations may be affected adversely by how this ranking is done.

Ranking species relating to South Florida Ecosystem Restoration:

- ❖ Category A. See above.

Colocasia esculenta, wild taro

Colubrina asiatica, lather-leaf

Cupaniopsis anacardiooides, carrotwood

Dioscorea alata, winged yam

Dioscorea bulbifera, air potato

Ficus microcarpa, laurel fig

Hygrophila polysperma, green hygro

Hymenachne amplexicaulis, West Indian marsh grass

Imperata cylindrica, cogongrass

Lygodium microphyllum, Old World climbing fern

Nephrolepis cordifolia, sword fern

Neyraudia reynaudiana Burma reed

Panicum repens, torpedo grass

Psidium cattleianum, strawberry-guava
Rhodomyrtus tomentosa, downy rose-myrtle
Schefflera actinophylla, umbrella tree or octopus plant
Senna pendula, Christmas cassia
Solanum tampicense, wetland nightshade

Syzygium cumini, Java-plum
Thespesia populnea, seaside mahoe
Tradescantia fluminensis, white-flowered wandering jew
Wedelia trilobata, wedelia

❖ Category B. See above.

Abrus precatorius, rosary pea
Acacia auriculiformis, earleaf acacia
Antigonon leptopus, coral vine
Ardisia elliptica, shoebutton ardisia
Cestrum diurnum, day jessamine
Cinnamomum camphora, camphor-tree
Cyperus involucratus, umbrella plant
Dalbergia sissoo, Indian rosewood
Eugenia uniflora, Surinam-cherry
Hydrilla verticillata, hydrilla
Leucaena leucocephala, lead tree
Ligustrum sinense, hedge privet
Lycopodium japonicum, Japanese climbing fern

Macfadyena unguis-cati, cat-claw vine
Manilkara zapota, sapodilla
Nephrolepis multiflora, Asian sword ferri
Paederia cruddasiana, sewer vine
Paederia foetida, skunk vine
Pennisetum purpureum, Napier grass
Pennisetum setaceum, green fountain grass
Ptychosperma elegans, solitary palm
Ricinus communis, castor-bean
Sansevieria Hyacinthoides, bowstring-hemp
Scaevola sericea, beach naupaka, half-flower
Tribulus cistoides, puncture vine
Syngonium podophyllum, arrowhead vine
Urochloa mutica, Para grass

❖ Category C. See above.

Adenanthera pavonina, red sandalwood
Agave sisalana, sisal hemp
Albizia lebbeck, woman's tongue
Alstonia macrophylla, devil-tree
Alternanthera philoxeroides, alligator weed
Asparagus desiflorus, asparagus-fern
Asystasia gangetica, Ganges primrose
Bauhinia variegata, orchid-tree
Bischofia javanica, bischofia
Callisia fragrans, spironema
Calophyllum antillanum, santa maria
Casuarina cunninghamiana, Australian-pine
Casuarina equisetifolia, Australian-pine
Casuarina glauca, suckering Australian-pine

Cordia dichotoma, sebsten plum
Cryptostegia madagascariensis, rubber vine
Eichhornia crassipes, water-hyacinth
Epipremnum pinnatum 'Aureum', pothos
Ficus altissima, false banyan
Flacourzia indica, governor's plum
Flueggea virosa, Chinese waterberry
Hibiscus tiliaceus, mahoe
Hiptage benghalensis, hiptage
Jasminum dichotomum, Gold Coast jasmine
Jasminum fluminense, Brazilian jasmine
Jasminum sambac, Arabian jasmine
Koelreuteria elegans, flamegold tree
Lantana camara, lantana

Limnophila sessiliflora, Asian marshweed
Lonicera japonica, Japanese honeysuckle
Melaleuca quinquenervia, melaleuca
Melia azedarach, chinaberry
Melinis minutiflora, molasses grass
Merremia tuberosa, wood-rose
Mimosa pigra, catclaw mimosa
Murraya paniculata, orange-jessamine
Myriophyllum spicatum, Eurasian water-milfoil
Ochroma elliptica, kopsia
Oeceoclades maculata, ground orchid
Passiflora biflora, twin-flowered passion vine
Passiflora foetida, stinking passion flower
Phoenix reclinata, Senegal date palm
Pistia stratiotes, water lettuce
Psidium guajava, guava

Pteris vittata, Chinese brake fern
Pueraria montana, kudzu
Rhynchoselytrum repens, Natal grass
Ruellia brittoniana, Mexican-petunia
Sapium sebiferum, Chinese tallow tree
Schinus terebinthifolius, Brazilian pepper
Sesbania punicea, scarlet sesban
Solanum dulcamara, twinleaf nightshade
Solanum torvum, susumber
Solanum viarum, tropical soda-apple
Syzygium jambos, rose-apple
Tectaria incisa, incised halberd fern
Terminalia catappa, tropical-almond
Terminalia mucronata, Australian almond
Tradescantia spathacea, oyster plant
Urena lobata, Caesar's-weed
Xanthosoma sagittifolium, elephant ear

Ranking species for the North and Central portions of Florida:

❖ Category A.

Ardisia crenata, coral ardisia
Colocasia esculenta, wild taro
Cupaniopsis anacardiooides, carrotwood
Dioscorea alata, winged yam
Dioscorea bulbifera, air potato
Ficus microcarpa, laurel fig
Hygrophila polysperma, green hygro
Hymenachne amplexicaulis, West Indian marsh grass
Imperata cylindrica, cogongrass
Ligustrum sinense, hedge privet
Lygodium japonicum, Japanese climbing fern
Lygodium microphyllum, Old World climbing fern
Nandina domestica, nandina
Nephrolepis cordifolia, sword fern

Phyllostachys aurea, golden bamboo
Paederia foetida, skunk vine
Panicum repens, torpedo grass
Psidium cattleianum, strawberry-guava
Rhodomyrtus tomentosa, downy rose-myrtle
Sapium sebiferum, Chinese tallow tree
Schefflera actinophylla, umbrella tree or octopus plant
Senna pendula, Christmas cassia
Solanum tampicense, wetland nightshade
Syzygium cumini, Java-plum
Thespesia populnea, seaside mahoe
Tradescantia fluminensis, white-flowered wandering jew

North and Central portions of the state:

❖ Category B

Abrus precatorius, rosary pea
Antigonon leptopus, coral vine
Asparagus densiflorus, asparagus-fern
Bischofia javanica, bischofia
Broussonetia papyrifera, paper mulberry
Cestrum diurnum, day jessamine
Cinnamomum camphora, camphor-tree
Cyperus involucratus, umbrell,a plant
Cyperus prolifera, dwarf papyrus
Dalbergia sissoo, Indian rosewood
Elaeagnus pungens, thorny elaeagnus
Eugenia uniflora, Surinam-cherry

North and Central sections of the state:

❖ Category C:

Agave sisalana, sisal hemp
Albizia julibrissin, mimosa
Albizia lebbeck, woman's tongue
Alternanthera philoxeroides, alligator weed
Aristolochia littoralis, calico flower
Asystasia gangetica, Ganges primrose
Bauhinia variegata, orchid-tree
Begonia cucullata, begonia
Callisia fragrans , spironema
Casuarina cunninghamiana, Australian-pine
Casuarina equisetifolia, Australian-pine
Casuarina glauca, suckering Australian-pine
Cryptostegia madagascariensis, rubber vine
Eichhornia crassipes, water-hyacinth
Epipremnum pinnatum cv. Aureum, pothos
Hibiscus tiliaceus, mahoe
Ipomoea aquatica, Chinese water-spinach
Jasminum dichotomum, Gold Coast jasmine
Jasminum fluminense, Brazilian jasmine

Hydrilla verticillata, hydrilla
Leucaena leucocephala, lead tree
Ligustrum lucidum, glossy privet
Lonicera japonica, Japanese honeysuckle
Nephrolepis multiflora, Asian sword fern
Pennisetum purpureum, Napier grass
Scaevola sericea, beach naupaka, half-flower
Solanum diphyllum, twinleaf nightshade
Syngonium.podophyllum, arrowhead vine
Urena lobata, Caesar's-weed
Urochloa mutica, Para grass
Wisteria sinensis, Chinese wisteria

Koelreuteria elegans, flamegold tree
Lantana camara, lantana
Limnophila sessiliflora, Asian marshweed
Macfadyena unguis-cati, cat-claw vine
Melaleuca quinquenervia, melaleuca
Melia azedarach, chinaherry
Mimosa pigra, catclaw mimosa
Myriophyllum spicatum, Eurasian water-milfoil
Ochroma elliptica, kopsia
Oeceoclades maculata, ground orchid
Passiflorafoetida, stinking passion flower
Phoenix reclinata, Senegal date palm
Pistia stratiotes, water lettuce
Psidium guajava, guava
Pteris vittata, Chinese brake fern
Pueraria montana, kudzu
Rhynchoselytrum repens, Natal grass
Ricinus communis, castor-bean

Ruellia brittoniana, Mexican-petunia
Schinus terebinthifolius, Brazilian pepper
Sesbania punicea, scarlet sesban
Solanum viarum, tropical soda-apple
Solanum torvum, susumber
Syzygium jambos, rose-apple
Tectaria incisa, incised halberd fern

Terminalia catappa, tropical-almond
Terminalia muelleri, Australian almond
Tradescantia spathacea, oyster plant
Tribulus cistoides, puncture vine
Wedelia trilobata, wedelia
Xanthosoma sagittifolium, elephant ear

Other points for consideration:

1. We (original committee) defer to Dr. James P. Cuda, University of Florida, for species which are the best candidates for biological control.
2. Immediate and rapid response action. Control all EPPC Category I and II, but place some priority on those species that are relatively new infestations and already are spreading rapidly. The list includes: *Lygodium microphyllum*, *L. japonicum*, *Cupaniopsis anacardioides*, *Hymenachne amplexicaulis*, *Solanum tampicense*, *Mimosa pigra*, *Salvinia molesta*, *Nymphaeodes cristata*.
3. The committee thinks the difference between immediate and 2-3 year response is irrelevant and should not be distinguished.
4. Three- ten years: Control all Category I and II species on sites of high priority.
5. The highest priority natural areas are: FNAI G1-G2 natural communities: pine rocklands, South Florida riverine systems, sandhills, karst systems, steepheads, seepage slopes, tree islands, scrub, springs, etc.

PART 2. An alternative report by another committee for numerical listing and prioritizing invasive species in Florida Members: Nancy C. Coile and Andrea C. Van Loan

Because Part I does not provide a list of the 10 top invasive weeds for Florida, but rather is a more philosophical presentation of the problem weeds, this smaller committee provides the following: one list for the entire state (N, C & S) and one for South Florida.

In these two lists, species are ranked by their present impact on the natural environments of Florida. Although some of the species have good management plans in place (e.g., *Melaleuca*), the species is presently a problem in the natural areas of the state. There is a sense of urgency with some of the species. For example, if funds and resources were available for control, *Solanum tampicense* probably could be managed rapidly before it becomes more widespread. *Lygodium microphyllum* is rapidly expanding its range and looms large, so that even though *Sapium sebiferum* is more widespread throughout the state, *Sapium sebiferum* is listed after *L. microphyllum*.

Prioritized List of Invasive Plant Species in Natural Areas for the State of Florida:

1. *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, punk tree
2. *Schinus terebinthifolius*, Brazilian-pepper
3. *Imperata cylindrica*, cogongrass
4. *Lygodium microphyllum*, Old World climbing fern
5. *Sapium sebiferum*, Chinese tallow-tree
6. *Dioscorea bulbifera*, air-potato
7. *Hydrilla verticillata*, hydrilla
8. *Lygodium japonicum*, Japanese climbing fern
9. *Paederia foetida*, skunk vine
10. *Solanum tampicense*, wetlands nightshade

Prioritized List of Invasive Plant Species in Natural Areas of South Florida:

1. *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, punk tree
2. *Schinus terebinthifolius*. Brazilian-pepper
3. *Lygodium microphyllum*, Old World climbing fern
4. *Dioscorea bulbifera*, air-potato
5. *Imperata cylindrica*, cogongrass
6. *Casuarina equisetifolia*, Australian-pine
7. *Cupaniopsis anacardioides*, carrotwood
8. *Colubrina asiatica*, lather leaf
9. *Ardisia elliptica*, shoebottom ardisia
10. *Schefflera actinophylla*, octopus-plant